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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/703,927      | 11/02/2000  | Junji Shirai         | PM 275275           | 3768             |

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EXAMINER

YOON, TAE H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1714

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2003

16

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1714

**LETTER WITH RESPECT TO 1.132 DECLARATION**

Note that said 1.132 declaration has been crossed-over the mail. Said 1.132 declaration has little probative value since it was based on applicant's own choice, not on the closest prior art by omitting polybrominated 1,4-diphenoxybenzene and antimony oxide taught by Abolins since the instantly recited "composed of" and "comprising" permits the presence of other component.

Also, it is odd why the amounts of an organic clay and a clay in Example B and C are different. The same amount should be used in order to have a fair comparison. One example alone cannot overcome the rejection of claims reciting a broader amount of an organic clay even if said 1.132 declaration had any probative value. In another words, the showing does not commensurate in scope with claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tae H. Yoon whose telephone number is (703) 308-2389. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan, can be reached on (703) 306-2777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9310

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

THY/January 28, 2003



TAE H. YOON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER